



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/057,654
Filing Date: 01/23/2002
Applicant: Koji Kato, et al.
Group Art Unit: 2124
Examiner: Tan V. Mai
Title: APPROXIMATE CALCULATOR FOR NON-LINEAR
FUNCTION AND MAP DECODER USING SAME
Attorney Docket: 4041J-000637

Director of The United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES AND PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 24, 2004, Paper No./Mail Date 09222004, please consider the following.

Applicant hereby petitions under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for a one month extension of time in which to respond to the outstanding Office Action and includes a fee as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) with this response for such extension of time.

The Examiner has required an election of species pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 121 to one of the following patentably distinct species:

- I. Claims 1, 2, 7 and 8 recite the approximate calculator for calculating...a non-linear function $\log(1+e^{-x})$ (Fig. 1).
- II. Claims 3-4, 5-6 and 9-10 recite the approximate calculator for calculating...a non-linear function $\log(e^a + e^b)$ (Fig. 4).


Applicants, without traverse, respectfully request the Examiner to proceed with Species II principally illustrated in Figure 4. Applicants believe that Claims 3-6 and 9-10 read on the elected species. Applicants request that the non-elected Claims be held in abeyance for possible rejoinder and/or further prosecution in future divisional and/or continuation applications.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this Response is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: November 4, 2004
HARNES, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303
(248) 641-1600

By: 
Michael J. Schmidt
Reg. No. 34,007

MJS/pmg